

## THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF LABOR AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE

ROSALIN ACOSTA SECRETARY WILLIAM J. ALPINE DIRECTOR

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c. 30A, §2, notice is hereby given that the Department of Family and Medical Leave (Department) will hold a public hearing on proposed amendments to the Department's regulations at 458 CMR 2.00 on **June 11, 2020 at 10:00 a.m.** At that time, interested parties will be afforded an opportunity to orally present statements relative to the proposed amendments.

The proposed regulatory amendments were promulgated pursuant to G.L. c. 175M, §8(g) and will clarify many of the Department's administrative procedures, including the registration of employers, private plan exemptions, and the payment of family and medical leave benefits.

On March 12, 2020, the Governor signed an order directing executive branch agencies to utilize alternative communication tools to conduct public hearings during the Commonwealth's COVID-19 state of emergency. In accordance with that order, the public hearing on June 11, 2020 will be held remotely. Details and instructions for participation, including remote access instructions and the locations of in-person locations in the event that the state of emergency is rescinded, are available at <a href="https://www.mass.gov/how-to/view-the-latest-draft-markup-of-revised-paid-family-and-medical-leave-pfml-regulations">https://www.mass.gov/how-to/view-the-latest-draft-markup-of-revised-paid-family-and-medical-leave-pfml-regulations</a> and are included in this notice, below.

Participants wishing to offer oral statements are strongly encouraged to register in advance of the hearing as registered participants will be afforded an earlier opportunity to speak. Additionally, the Department encourages all interested parties who wish to submit written statements or proposed amendments to the regulations to use its electronic web form. Participants may register at <a href="https://eolwdma.webex.com">https://eolwdma.webex.com</a> and submit written statements electronically at: <a href="https://www.mass.gov/how-to/view-the-latest-draft-markup-of-revised-paid-family-and-medical-leave-pfml-regulations">https://www.mass.gov/how-to/view-the-latest-draft-markup-of-revised-paid-family-and-medical-leave-pfml-regulations</a>. Those unable to submit electronically may mail statements to: Department of Family and Medical Leave, ATTN: Regulations, 19 Staniford Street, First Floor, Boston, MA 02114. Written statements may be submitted at any time prior to June 12, 2020 at 5:00 p.m.

To join the hearing online, go to <a href="https://eolwdma.webex.com">https://eolwdma.webex.com</a> and enter Meeting ID 354 234 734. To join the hearing by phone, please call +1-617-315-0704 and enter Meeting ID 354 234 734 followed by the # key when prompted.

The full text of the proposed amendment is available at <a href="https://www.mass.gov/how-to/view-the-latest-draft-markup-of-revised-paid-family-and-medical-leave-pfml-regulations">https://www.mass.gov/how-to/view-the-latest-draft-markup-of-revised-paid-family-and-medical-leave-pfml-regulations</a>. or you may request a copy by contacting Jess Deleconio at (617) 626-6565.

If the state of emergency is rescinded in whole or in part to allow in-person public hearings on June 11, 2020, there will be two in-person hearings held. In this instance, the scheduled remote hearing will also be conducted in-person at the Springfield Regional Chamber of Commerce, 1441 Main St., First Floor, TD Bank Conference Center, Springfield, MA 01103 on June 11, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. and a second in-person hearing will be held on June 12, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. at the Charles F. Hurley Building, Minihan Hall, 19 Staniford St., Sixth Floor, Boston, MA 02114.

Please note that Photo ID is required to enter both the Springfield and Boston locations and capacity may be limited if social distancing requirements are in effect at the time of the hearings.

May 14, 2020